

NY 71-10
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The Confederate.

D. K. McRAE, A. M. GORMAN,
EDITORS.

Will letters on business of the Office, to be
forwarded to A. M. GORMAN & Co.

SAURDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 1864.

One Very Short Step to the Front.

Sixty-eight of the Magistrates of Orange county, as will be seen by the proceedings in another column, taken from the *Hillside Recorder*, have unanimously resolved that they will sell at schedule prices to the destitute families of their soldiers, and a few other persons in extreme want, one-tenth part of all the grain (wheat and corn) which they have of this year's crop to dispose of, and they call upon all the farmers to do the same. And they call, on those who have not wheat and corn, but have money, to contribute thereof for the same object.

Subjoined to these proceedings is a short but admirable address, signed by Messrs. P. C. Cameron and J. W. Norwood, County Agents. While we acknowledge the commendable character of these proceedings, and are inclined to render just praise for this beginning of an associated effort in the right direction, we confess, with great disappointment, that the Magistrates of Orange should have fallen so far short of the full measure of duty. As a matter of course, and because, their action is worthy of all praise. It is thoughtful, considerate and just. But we had hoped that if so enlightened a body of citizens as the Magistrates of Orange had brought themselves to survey the ground, that they would at once have occupied the most advanced position. It surely cannot have escaped their observation, that the most critical danger of the nation has now to encounter, in its financial embarrassment. The earnest appeals of the new Secretary of the Treasury for the popular confidence, cannot have escaped them. His hopeful and confident assurances have not misled their attention. Why then did they not meet the issue, and resolve to sell to all persons buying for consumption, not at schedule prices, but at fair equivalent prices—ousting the money to be received valuable? Why did they not get further even, and announce the confidence of the Magistrates of Orange in the integrity and ability of the Government, and practically demonstrate that confidence by putting a foot down upon the extortion and extortionate and ruinous prices of the day? General Graham, the Confederate Senator, needs no demonstration, we are sure, on the point of preserving the national credit; for however wide he differs from Gov. Graham more in political principle than opinion, we are sure, that in political principle, if the matter were fairly understood between us, we have an abiding confidence in the sterling personal qualities of this noble and eminent North Carolina statesman, in his high position, and that he will be forthcoming always, when the honor of the nation is involved, to preserve and maintain it. But the Hon. Josiah Turner would not be injured by a little prodding on the question of preserving the national faith. This politician, not a whit less honest than the average of his class, and with far more possessed of entertaining and agreeable qualities than most of them, and therefore the more dangerous if not the more wholly a politician, and with the acumen of one of a class who counts danger with the keenest of politicians.

We are therefore not without our fears, that Mr. Turner might not view the preservation of the national integrity quite as much in the light of a moral proposition as in that of a political expediency; and that in arguing out the theory, he might make a logical circle of which Mr. Turner might be the centre. So that the unanimous action of the Magistrates of Orange would not in all probability be wholly lost on her immediate representative. But far more efficacious would the action of the Magistrates of Orange have been upon the State at large, if they had stepped forward, the first example of associated effort to put down the destructive prices which are entailing on us so many present hardships, and are destined to afflict the State, if persisted in, with insurmountable ones. Can any man fail to perceive the out-crop of this kind of trouble? Repudiation, with all the accompaniments of broken faith, lost honor, forfeited esteem, destroyed credit, with the attendant prostration of enterprise, energy and prosperity for generations. On the other hand, who can doubt, if society be true to itself, that if we establish confidence, support the financial branch of the Government, count its promises for gold, that which harvest will be reaped in the ample and easy capacity for the redemption of the public obligation, and the preservation of the national faith.

We are saddened that we are obliged to record, right on the heel of the earnest appeals of Mr. Trenholm, that the Magistrates of Orange have looked upon the wounded who fall among thieves and passed by upon the other side. It is but little comfort to a public representative to address his mind from day to day to a remembrance of the people of their best interests, and meet no response. Before the next session of Congress, the people of the Confederacy are to decide between national prosperity, or the reverse; and only confidence is the remedial prescription.

"I wonder where those clouds are going?" sighed Flora, positively, as she pointed with her delicate finger to the heavy funeral masses that floated lazily in the sky. "I think they are going to thunder," said her brother.

Why Not?

Major General Hancock has telegraphed Stanton, has telegraphed Dix, and by this time all the telegraphers and trices have rejoiced to the glorious victory achieved by the Yankees on Sunday last near Reams' Station, and all with a loss of twelve hundred or fifteen hundred, surmised no more, no less. And why should not Grant thus telegraph, and Stanton, and Dix. Some innocent may presume as to because it wasn't true. Now how absurd! True, what have Yankee Generals got to do with truth? That's not the way to "live on nothing a year," and make the people pay for it. And while one is lying, why not have a stout, full-grown lie, with good developments and prophecies—one that would not shame its father like a petty little dwarf of a lie would be sure to do. Besides, Gen. Grant is no tyrant in the art. His first essay was a "stunner," that "bayonet charge" at Williamsburg, which plain old Jubal Early was green enough to contradict, and which truly had no more of fact in it than there is honesty in terrorism.

But really, there is a bold assurance about this one that out-yanked Yankeeedom. Hancock's men were out in his works, and the works captured and held by our men. In those works he had colors held in the hands of his men. These colors were taken out of their hands and are held by our men as trophies of victory. He had guns planted in those works and served, and these guns were taken by our men; five Napoleons and four rifles. These guns were carried upon their firing defenders, and the Yankees were eaten up by their own dogs. And for the loss—a surmise of fifteen hundred. Why twenty odd hundred of prisoners have passed through the dark passages of the Libby to the elysium of Belle Isle, besides the other hundreds that were carried off crippled and lacerated, and hundreds yet again whose no one cared to touch, who were fit neither for prison nor hospital, but only for bugs and worms—they and the two hundred and fifty horses that lay beside them while Hancock lied about them.

There was a work to do for the Chicago Convention, and Hancock has done it; and there was a time when this lie would have gone gulping down the throats of the same people who had struggled by others like it. But that time has passed. Along with this report there went another from an altogether different source. The few short words of Robert Lee, telling what was done, and who did it, and thanking God for the success which enabled it to be done, and His instruments for doing it. This is truth, and the time now is that the Yankee people understand it to be so; and the best sign of progress is that the magnanimous and devoted are ceasing to believe lies. A few days will give us the result at Chicago. It may be looked for at any time. It will tell for peace or war, and our people while hoping, long for the one, if it brings independence, are prepared for the other rather than any coming short of freedom.

From the Petersburg Express, of Thursday.

From the Front.

Yesterday passed without the occurrence of anything of interest along the lines. The quiet was unbroken by the usual daily picket firing. The day did not pass, however, without rumors of important movements on the part of the enemy, which we are disposed to discredit, until more reliable intelligence reaches us. It was stated on the street yesterday that a raiding party of the enemy had struck out through Dinwiddie county, and had reached the vicinity of the Courthouse. This story is improbable from the fact that the roads leading hence to a point beyond the Yankee lines, are strongly guarded, and the enemy would not be likely to force his way through without greatly endangering his safety. We need scarcely expect a raid by the enemy so near the city.

The report was again circulated last evening that the enemy had withdrawn from the Weldon railroad. Steps were taken, we understand, to ascertain the truth of this important rumor, which gained some credence not only in the city, but in the camp. Scouts were sent out to discover the enemy's position, but at the writing we have not heard the result of their reconnaissance. While we would be rejoiced to hear that the Yankees had withdrawn from the south of the city, we are yet loath to credit rumors that they have done so, and shall await official confirmation. We cannot, however, see what advantages Grant derives from his occupation of the road, other than a slight inconvenience to the Confederate army here. He has completely destroyed the railroad for a distance of ten miles and can accomplish nothing more. Therefore it is not improbable he may soon strike his tents and disappear.

Grant is again reported as moving troops to his right—with the intention of either reinforcing Buller, or of making another leap on the north side of the James. A deserter who came into our lines and was subjected to a strict examination, stated that the Chicago Convention had nominated Gen. Geo. B. McClellan as the candidate of the peace party for President. He says a steamer arrived at City Point at a late hour on Tuesday night, bringing the intelligence.

Deserters are continually coming into our lines to avail themselves of the provisions of General Order No. 65.

A NEAR LITTLE AFFAIR.

Yesterday morning a dismounted detachment of Col. Griffin's 8th Georgia cavalry regiment, Dragoon's Brigade, charged the enemy's support near Reams' house on the Weldon Railroad, captured five prisoners belonging to Warren's 5th Army Corps, killed two and drove the rest, some 150, in a perfect stampede, nearly half a mile back to their supports. We did not lose a man in this skirmish.

Tate movement developed the fact that the enemy had two signal stations in the tops of two large pines, from which they could very plainly observe any changes in the disposition of our troops.

A YANKEE SURPRISE.—We learn from the *State Journal*, that on Sunday morning last, a party of men belonging to the 67th regiment State troops, under command of Major Whitford, struck the Atlantic and N. C. railroad near Creston Station, below Newbern, carrying up a portion of the track sufficient to throw from the road the train from Morehead City. The Yankees say the train was much damaged and several persons injured, perhaps some killed. Our troops made a complete circuit of Newbern and returned on yesterday morning to Kingston, having killed some seven Yankees, and captured several more, without themselves sustaining any injury. The Yankees at Newbern, we learn, were much excited at this daring raid.

Question of Exchanges.

TO THE RELATIVES AND FRIENDS OF CONFEDERATE SOLDIERS CAPTURED IN NORTHERN PRISONS:

On the 22nd of July, 1863, the Cartel of Exchange was agreed upon. The chief, if not only, purpose of that instrument was to secure the release of all prisoners of war. To that end, the fourth article provides that all prisoners of war should be discharged on parole, in ten days after their capture, and that the prisoners then held, and those thereafter taken, should be transported to the points mutually agreed upon, at the expense of the capturing party. The sixth article also stipulates that "all prisoners of whatever arm of service, are to be exchanged or paroled in ten days from the time of their capture, if it be practicable to transfer them to their own lines in that time; if not, as soon thereafter as practicable."

From the date of the Cartel until July, 1863, the Confederate authorities held the excess of prisoners. During that interval, deliveries were made as far as the Federal government furnished transportation. Indeed, upon more than one occasion, I urged the Federal authorities to send increased means of transportation. As ready as the enemy always has been to bring false accusations against us, it has never been alleged that we failed or neglected to make prompt deliveries of prisoners who were not under charges, when we held the excess. On the other hand, during the same time, the Cartel was openly and notoriously violated by the Federal authorities. Officers and men were kept in cruel confinement, sometimes in irons or doomed cells, without charges or trial.

In July, 1863, the enemy, for the first time since the adoption of the Cartel, held the excess of prisoners. As soon as that fact was ascertained, whenever a delivery was made by the Federal authorities, they demanded an equal number in return. I redoubled my efforts to obtain from the Federal Agent of Exchange a distinct avowal of the intentions of his government as to the delivery of prisoners, but in vain. At length, on the 20th of October, 1863, I addressed to Brig. Gen. Meredith the following letter to wit:

RICHMOND, VA., Oct. 20, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. A. Meredith, Agent of Exchange.

SIR:—More than a month ago, I asked your acquiescence in a proposition that all officers and soldiers on both sides should be released in conformity with the provisions of the Cartel. In order to obviate the difficulties between us, I suggested that all officers and men on both sides should be released, unless they were subject to charges; in which case the opposite government should have the right of holding one or more hostages if the retention was not justified. You stated to me, in conversation, that this proposition was very fair, and that you would ask the consent of your government to it.

As usual, you have yet made no response. I tell you frankly, I do not expect any. Perhaps you may disappoint me, and tell me that you reject or accept the proposition. I write this letter for the purpose of bringing to your recollection my proposition, and of dissipating the idea that seems to have been purposed by your public papers, that the Confederate government has refused or objected to a system of exchanges.

In order to avoid any mistake in that direction, I now propose that all officers and men on both sides be released in conformity with the provisions of the Cartel, the excess on one side or the other to be on parole. Will you accept this? I have no expectation of an answer—but perhaps you may give one. If it does come, I hope it will be soon.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

RO. OULD,

Agent of Exchange.

On the 20th of October, 1863, I received from General Meredith a communication informing me that my proposal of the 20th was "not accepted." I was tentatively told that if the excess of prisoners was delivered they would be wrongfully exchanged by me and sent to the South. To show how groundless this intimation was, it is only necessary for me to state that since then I have repeatedly offered to give ten Federal captives for every Confederate soldier whom the enemy will show to have been wrongfully declared exchanged.

From the last named date until the present time there have been but few deliveries of prisoners, the enemy in each case demanding a like number in return.

It will be observed that the Confederate authorities only claimed that the provisions of the Cartel should be fulfilled. They only asked the enemy to do what, without any hesitation, they had done during the first year of the operation of the Cartel. Seeing a persistent purpose on the part of the Federal Government to violate its own agreement, the Confederate authorities, moved by the sufferings of the brave men who are so unjustly held in Northern prisons, determined to make their fair demands, and accordingly, on the 10th of August, 1864, I addressed the following communication to Major John E. Mulford, Assistant Agent of Exchange, in charge of the flag of truce boat, which, on the same day, I delivered to him at Varina, on James river:

WAR DEPARTMENT.

Richmond, Va., August 10, 1864.

Major John E. Mulford, Assistant Agent of Exchange.

SIR: You have several times proposed to me to exchange the prisoners respectively held by the two belligerents, officer for officer and man for man. The same offer has also been made by other officials having charge of matters connected with the exchange of prisoners. This proposal has heretofore been decided by the Confederate authorities, they insisting upon the terms of the Cartel, which required the delivery of the excess on either side upon parole. In view, however, of the very large number of prisoners now held by each party, and the suffering consequent upon their continued confinement, I now consent to the above proposal, and agree to deliver to you the prisoners held in captivity by the Confederate authorities, provided you agree to deliver an equal number of Confederate officers and men. As equal numbers are delivered from time to time, they will be declared exchanged.

This proposal is made with the understanding that the officers and men who have been longest in captivity will be the first delivered, where it is practicable. I shall be happy to hear from you as speedily as possible whether this arrangement can be carried out.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

RO. OULD,

Agent of Exchange.

I accompanied the delivery of the letter with a list of the mortality which was burying up many Federal prisoners at Andersonville, the grave.

On the 20th of the same month, Major Mulford returned with the flag of truce steam-

er, but brought no answer to my letter of the 10th of August. In conversation with him I asked him if he had any reply to make to my communication, and his answer was that he was not authorized to make any. So deep was the solicitude which I felt in the fate of the captives in Northern prisons, that I determined to make another effort. In order to obviate any objection which technicality might raise as to the person to whom my communication was addressed, I wrote to Major General E. A. Hitchcock, who is the Federal Commissioner of Exchange, residing in Washington city, the following letter, and delivered the same to Major Mulford on the day of its date. Accompanying that letter was a copy of the communication which I had addressed to Major Mulford on the 10th of August.

RICHMOND, VA., Aug. 22, 1864.

Major Gen. E. A. Hitchcock, U. S. Commissioner of Exchange.

SIR:—Enclosed is a copy of a communication which, on the 10th instant, I addressed and delivered to Major John E. Mulford, Assistant Agent of Exchange. Under the circumstances of the case, I deem it proper to forward this paper to you, in order that you may fully understand the position which is taken by the Confederate authorities. I shall be glad if the proposition therein made is accepted by your Government.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

RO. OULD, Agent of Exchange.

On the afternoon of the 30th of August, was notified that the flag of truce steamboat had again appeared at Varina. On the following day I went to Major Mulford, the following note to wit:

RICHMOND, August 31, 1864.

Major John E. Mulford, Asst. Agent of Exchange.

SIR:—On the 10th of this month I addressed you a communication, to which I have received an answer. On the 22d inst., I also addressed a communication to Major Gen. E. A. Hitchcock, U. S. Commissioner of Exchange, enclosing a copy of my letter to you of the 10th inst. I now respectfully ask you to state in writing whether you have any reply to either of said communications; and, if not, whether you have any reason to give why no reply has been made?

Respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

RO. OULD,

Agent of Exchange.

In a short time I received the following response, to wit:

FLAG OF TRUCE STEAMER "NEW YORK,"

Varina, Va., Aug. 31, 1864.

Hon. R. Ould, Agent of Exchange.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your favor of to-day, requesting answer, &c., to your communication of the 10th inst., on the question of the exchange of prisoners.

To which, in reply, I would say, I have no communication on the subject from our authorities, nor am I yet authorized to make an answer.

I am, sir, very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

JOHN E. MULFORD,

Major and Asst. Agt. for Exchange.

I have thus fully set before you the action of the Confederate authorities in relation to a matter which lay near your heart, and which it has been received by the enemy. The fortunes of your fathers, husbands, sons, brothers and friends are as dear to these authorities as their persons are precious to you, and I have made this publication, not only as an illustration of Federal bad faith, but also that you might see that your Government has spared no effort to secure the release of the gallant men who have so often fronted death in the defense of our sacred cause.

RO. OULD,

Agent of Exchange.

August 31, 1864 Agent of Exchange.

From the Richmond Whig.

The News.

FROM EAST TENNESSEE.

Our correspondent with the army operating in East Tennessee, writes as follows under date of August 25th:

"The army have retired in the direction of Bull's Gap. They are carrying off all the horses and stock in the country. Their force, all told, is about 2,000 and six pieces of artillery."

REMOVED MOVEMENTS OF WHEELER.

The *Lynchburg Republican* of the 27th has news to the effect that the force of Yankee cavalry which advanced on Rugeley's farm, six days ago, and drove back our force, have suddenly retired the way they came. It is also reported, upon trustworthy authority, that General Wheeler, with a large force of cavalry, is between Knoxville and Bristol, advancing into Kentucky. This is strange news, not at all impossible, as at our last advices he was on this side of Dalton, and his conduct was pronounced "most unwise" by the Federal press. A formidable raid into Kentucky at this time would be a terrible blow to the enemy, and fatal to Sherman's rear.

FROM THE LOWER VALLEY.

A gentleman who was at Newbern, in the Lower V.-ley, as the Yankee force under Sheridan advanced and retreated through that place, informs the *Raleighian Register* that they number 30,000, including all arms of the service. Their cavalry was handsomely mounted and equipped. They were, however, greatly demoralized on their retreat, and although they moved at a double quick, it took them eleven hours to pass a given point. They had no negro troops with them, but there were a great number of negro hangers on stealing horses, &c. They burned all the hay and grain with which they were supplied in sight of Newbern. The *Register* informs that the whole party was an unmitigated set of cowards, who were under no sort of restraint or discipline.

THE OLD NORTH STATE.

It was North Carolina infantry mainly with whom A. P. Hill performed his share of the glorious work at Reams', while Roger's North Carolina Cavalry, under Hampton, was side by side with the dashing Ninth Virginia in the thickest of the charge. North Carolina troops know not only how to save their State from disgrace by their votes, but how to defend its liberties at the mouth of the cannon. The North Carolina infantry brigades engaged at Reams' were Lane's, Cook's and McKee's.

FROM MOBILE.

Since the surrender of Fort Morgan, Farragut and Granger have had nothing to do except to prepare for the great job before them—the taking of Mobile.

That they will make an effort, and a desperate one, to reduce the city is certain, as no other in the Yankee navy has more energy, courage or skill, than Farragut, and the quantities in him will stimulate the Yankees and force to perform more than their accustomed deeds of daring. But all this will not avail, because the defenders of the city are working night and day, like badgers, upon its defenses, and are bringing into the ranks every available man that can pull a trigger or run a cannon.

At the same time, the city is being supplied with provisions and other necessities, and the work of organizing and equipping them with an earnestness which gives promise that in the hour of trial they will prove a most efficient element of defense in the approaching struggle.

Governor Wicks is backing him to the utmost extent of his authority as Executive of the State.

On the 23d Gen. Higgins tried the guns of the batteries around the city to see they were in proper position and working order.

While every preparation which skill and patriotism can suggest is being made for the successful defense of Mobile, it will be seen by the following letter from Gen. Maury to Hon. R. G. Scott, that he is not in the mean while unmindful of the safety and comfort of non-combatants:

MOBILE, Aug. 12th, 1864.

My Dear Sir: The non-combatants of Mobile give me more concern than all else. They will not go away—they have nowhere to go. You can aid us greatly by causing plans to be made for the removal of this class until they can be sent to some place where they will be safe and secure during active hostilities.

With great respect and in haste,

Yours truly,

DANIEL H. MAURY

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Yours truly,

DANIEL H. MAURY

Scales' N. C. Brigade in the Fight of Thursday Last.

[Correspondence of the Petersburg Express.]

PETERSBURG, VA., Aug. 29th, 1864.

Editors of Express:—In your issue of today, the following language occurs: "Anderson's (Georgia) and Scales' (N. C.) Brigades moved off in beautiful order, but meeting with such a concentrated fire from the works, they were repulsed."

In justice to the men of Scales' Brigade, who for their gallantry were thanked and congratulated by both their Major and Brigadier Generals on the field, I respectfully ask you to publish a short statement of the conduct of the Brigade on that day.

In the advance Scales' Brigade was in front. Immediately on reaching the field of battle, the two leading regiments of the Brigade, the 13th and 16th, were deployed and ordered to attack the enemy's rifle pits on the left flank and in the rear. At a double quick these two regiments moved upon the enemy and carried the entire line. The move was a complete success. The 13th regiment pursued the flying enemy to his main line of works, and for twenty minutes, alone and unsupported, it maintained its position close to the strong works, and compelled the enemy twice to desert his position in their immediate front. It was only after two of General Scales' staff visited the regiment and ordered it to the rear, that the regiment retired to the Brigade.

Information obtained by this advance, enabled the Generals to plan the attack, which proved a success. By this time the other regiments of the brigade with the Georgia Brigade, had reached the field and were in line of battle. Two regiments of Scales' Brigade, the 16th and 13th, were deployed as skirmishers, and ordered to protect the left flank and rear of the attacking column against the enemy, who were already advancing in that direction. Here they were engaged during the entire evening. Before the arrival of either the infantry supports or the artillery, (which contributed so materially to our success) three regiments of Scales' Brigade, viz: Twenty-second, Thirty-fourth and the Thirty-eighth, with the Georgia Brigade, were ordered to assault the enemy's position. In gallant style these regiments moved to their bloody work, the Thirty-eighth, although it advanced to fifteen paces of the enemy's position, yet it did not become actively engaged, the position of the works and thick undergrowth concealing it effectually from the enemy. The Twenty-second and Thirty-fourth, advanced in complete order through the open field in front of the strong position of the enemy. Through a perfect storm of cannon, grape and musketry they rushed forward with a yell up to the muzzles of the enemy's guns, gallant spirits springing from the line to capture the hated flag. The works are all but gained, when the entire brigade on the right gives back and leaves two regiments alone upon the field. Their commanders have no alternative left but annihilation or retreat. They exceed the latter—slowly and degradedly the men retire from the covered ground. The line is quickly reformed—the men are complimented for their gallant charge. Behind the line, the troops, who carried the lines at first with such much gallantry, are massed and compelled from the enemy. The brigade is moved to the left and driven back the enemy there while the works are captured by the storming party.

Very respectfully,

GAR.

A correspondent of the Greensboro' Citizen says:

In the charge made by Scales' N. C. Brigade and Anderson's Georgia Brigade, (on the night of the Weldon Railroad) the latter broke and uncovered the right flank of Scales, who was compelled to fall back, while under a heavy and concentrated fire within but a few yards of the enemy's breast works. The next charge was made by Lane's, Cook's, Kirkland's and Scales' Brigades, though the latter Brigade was not so heavily engaged in the second charge as in the first. Major Gen. Wicks and Lieut. Gen. Hill complimented Scales' Brigade for the first fine charge, and all blame Anderson's for giving way.

We regret to learn that N. N. Nixon, Esq., of this county, sustained a severe loss on the night of the 24th instant, by the burning of his oil mill and machinery, at his place on Sea Island. The engine, mill, and press were very badly injured, it not rendered totally useless. There was also some stock on hand in the way of ground peas and oil, but how much we have not learned. The worst of it is that it will be very difficult, if not impossible, to replace the machinery which has been injured or destroyed.

We have not learned how the fire originated, but presume that it was accidental.—*Wilmington Journal*.

Subscribe to the Confederate.

Notice.

BY ORDER of the County Court of Chatham, I shall offer for sale in front of the Court House, \$15,000 N. C. TREASURY NOTES, on the 20th of September, 1864, being

RENEA L. LONDON, Chairman.

Pittsboro', Sept. 1, 1864.—20th

TELEGRAPHIC.

REPORTS OF THE PRESS ASSOCIATION.

Entered according to act of Congress in the year 1863, by J. S. Tinsman, in the Clerk's Office of the District Court of the Confederate States for the Northern District of Georgia.

From Richmond.

10th MOND, Sept. 1.—Letters from officers in Early's command state that a considerable fight occurred on Saturday. Early feigned a retreat when the 6th corps started from Harper's Ferry in pursuit. This corps was ambushed and terribly cut up. No official information of the affair has been received.

[SECOND DISPATCH.]

RICHMOND, Sept. 2.—Capt. Hatch, of the Exchange Bureau, left Varina at six o'clock, p. m., yesterday. He was informed that a dispatch just received, dated Petersburg, announces the nomination of McClellan on the first ballot. Nothing is said about the Vice-President or platform.

[THIRD DISPATCH.]

RICHMOND, Sept. 3.—The New York Herald, of the 30th, has been received. It contains matter chiefly pertaining to the Chicago Convention. They refused to admit delegates from the territory of Western Virginia, and States in rebellion. Washington Hunt introduced a resolution looking to a reconstruction of the Union through a Convention of all the States. The Pennsylvania delegation offered resolutions to the same object, of a much more satisfactory character.

From Mobile.

MOBILE, Aug. 31.—The Committee of safety have held a meeting and resolved their entire satisfaction with Gen. Frank Gardner, recently appointed to command this district. They express entire confidence in his ability, and ask him to hold the city to the last extremity. A flag of truce boat arrived at Pascagoula bringing thirteen Confederate Surgeons.

From Louisiana.

CLINTON, La., Aug. 30.—At six o'clock yesterday morning, one of our batteries, six miles above Port Hudson, opened on the transport Flying Cloud, burning her steam pipe and disabling her, with the loss of her supplies, and some life. A monitor came up, and the battery returned. Another battery came up and fired five shots at the transport. Three miles above Bayou Sara. The loss not known. Yankees all gone back to the river.

Shelling Masonborough Island.

The Columbia Carolinian of the 30th ult. says:

A few days ago, the Yankee blockaders shelled with great fury the island of Masonborough, in the vicinity of Wilmington. This place is used as a summer resort by a few families of the above mentioned city, and though it has been for sometime within reach of the guns of the blockading fleet, yet, as hitherto the Yankees did not seem disposed to molest them, the families residing there had not thought it necessary to remove